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brings up the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries in a vivid and lucid way. The tyranny of the discipline was something incomprehensible to us. When slates came in a master (p. 81) wanted string to hang twenty or more about the pupils' necks. An innocent boy—not the cute adults of these pictures—brought out his best fishing-line. It was sacrificed remorselessly to this occasion.

The definite accounts of precocity in numerous instances are frightful. The "pious and ingenious Mrs. Jane Turell" (p. 179), in her second year, knew her letters and could relate many stories out of the Scriptures, and the next year recited most of the Catechism. At the age of four, "she asked many astonishing questions about divine mysteries." The mournful experiences with his children, told by Judge Sewall in full detail, show the fruits produced by this sort of culture.

An occasional error creeps in, as in Wynkoop's age (p. 352). Skates of the forties in this century (p. 346) hardly illustrate colonial life. The "homespun flannel sheet spun of the whitest wool into a fine twisted worsted" (p. 21) was excellent as flannel. Flannels were not made of combed worsted.

The book justifies itself and will be read by adults, if not by children, as the author hopes. It becomes a necessary adjunct of history.

WILLIAM B. WEEDEN.

Letters to Washington and accompanying Papers. Edited by STANISLAUS MURRAY HAMILTON. Vol. II., 1756-1758. (Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin and Co. 1899. Pp. xviii, 409.)

THE second volume of this correspondence of Washington covers only two years, but carries Washington through a long and trying experience on the frontiers of Virginia, into the House of Burgesses, to which he was elected by a good vote in July, 1758. The letters are bristling with the necessary detail of an ill-conditioned service; and contain few items of real value to the history of Virginia. The personal element is, on the other hand, of high importance, for it is easy to recognize how great an influence these years of thankless labor exerted in moulding the character of the Washington of the Revolution and the presidency. The loyal devotion of his officers, the control he held over his somewhat disorderly troops, and his judgment in matters of doubt or in times of danger, are fully displayed, and give a note higher than the petty annoyances and ignoble differences which were inseparable from the service. Whether it was a provincial or a royal officer, Washington commanded his respect and confidence, even though he never appeared to have been on terms of free intimacy. His friendships were few, and the letters contain little of that freedom which is expected among associates and equals.

The grades of intimacy and respect are not without their interest. It was with George Mercer, Joseph Chew and John Kirkpatrick that he was most free, if the tone of their letters to him are any true indication. The first two named became loyalists in 1774, and Kirkpatrick, who had

served as his secretary, returned to Scotland and disappeared from view. With Dinwiddie he had some disputes and entertained unjust suspicions of his motives ; but with Stanwix and Bouquet his intercourse was proper, as it was with the man who was to suffer so in his opposition, Thomas Gage. In Virginia he naturally had many correspondents, like Robinson, the Speaker of the Burgesses, William Fairfax, Richard Bland and Dr. Craik, the last of whom was a lifelong friend. The letters from his under officers, like those of Bullitt, Stewart and Peachey, are naturally taken up largely with matters of detail and discipline.

Mr. Hamilton's treatment of these letters still calls for some criticism, though no little improvement in accuracy over the first volume is shown. To know the full relations of this correspondence the editor must at least be familiar with the colonial history and geography of Virginia. Otherwise, it is the blind leading the blind. He repeats an error committed in Vol. I., and gives an impossible spelling, *Conogockuk*, on p. 325 ; *Thurston* is given no less than three times on two pages (290, 292), where *Thruston*, a well-known name, should occur ; he retains the *ff* in a proper name, although the double letter was the conventional sign of a capital ; and he prints no less than five letters from Bosomworth as coming from *Botomworth*. These are but examples of easily avoidable errors, and must be charged to the account of the editor. Mr. Hamilton's insistence in defending certain palpable misreadings in the former volume induces caution in calling attention to similar slips in this volume. But it would seem as though *scene* is printed for *service* on p. 139 ; *Walker* for *Waller*, on p. 373 ; *cilitations* for *cilications* or *cilisitations* on p. 57 ; and *mederes* for *medals*, on p. 80. Again I give only examples. Comment could be made on the omission to supply the missing parts of the Dinwiddie letters (see note on p. 43), and on the bad appearance of pages where the oddities of the writer of the letter are sought to be reproduced in formal type.

WORTHINGTON CHAUNCEY FORD.

A History of Quaker Government in Pennsylvania. By ISAAC SHARPLESS, President of Haverford College. Vol. II., The Quakers in the Revolution. (Philadelphia : T. S. Leach and Co. 1899. Pp. vi, 156).

THIS is the second and concluding volume in President Sharpless's study, the *History of Quaker Government in Pennsylvania*. In the former volume he dealt with the colonial period down to 1756, when the Friends surrendered their control of the Assembly ; in the present one he pursues the subject forward to the Revolutionary cataclysm, and adds a chapter describing the protests of the Pennsylvania Friends against slavery, in the period immediately after the Revolution.

If we were inclined to be critical, it might be said that the general title which is given to this work is a misnomer as to events after 1756— all those, indeed, included in the present volume. The Friends did not